
❖ The Lamoine Quarterly ❖

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Voters Reject Land Purchase, Approve Staggered Terms for Larger Board

(Lamoine) - The margin was far closer than many expected as Lamoine voters turned down a proposal to borrow \$350,000 to purchase land behind the Lamoine Consolidated School and Fire Station. The final total was 541 no and 472 yes, a difference of 69 votes.

The proposal would have given the go-ahead to purchase about 25-acres from three landowners, the largest tract being a 20-acre parcel currently owned by Duane Crawford and Julie Tilden. The town's Public Works Study Committee was tasked with searching for a suitable piece of land for future municipal needs, and the proposed purchase was the best option in the committee's opinion. The parcel owned by Crawford & Tilden is currently proposed to become an 11-lot subdivision (see page 2).

It was difficult to gauge the voters preference following the election, and whether enough information had been given prior to the vote to know if the choice was fully informed. A handful of voters showed up for the public hearing before the November 2nd balloting,

and opinion was mixed at that hearing as well.

The future of land for municipal needs is still up in the air. Committee Chair Ken Smith indicated he would favor asking the town again, but that is up to the Selectmen, and chairman Jo Cooper said she's willing to revisit the question. Other parcels may be explored as well.

On the issue of staggering the terms of the Selectmen, the voters were very clear that they favored that question. By a vote of 733 to 275 the voters approved changing the Elections Ordinance to clarify that the newly expanded Board of Selectmen will have staggering three year terms. Beginning with the March 2005 election, three Selectmen will be elected, one to a 1-year term, one to a 2-year term, and one to a 3-year term. The March 2006 and subsequent elections will elect Selectmen to 3-year terms as the terms expire, and so on down the road.

Voters in June 2004 approved a question forced by citizen petition to expand the Board to 5-members.

Lamoiners Say NO to Property Tax Cap

On Line Car Registration Coming

(L a m o i n e) -

Selectmen agreed to give on-line car registration with the



Secretary of State's office the green light this fall. That means residents with computers can skip the trip to the town office and re-register most vehicles any time of day on the Internet.

The town has supplied the state's service provider with vehicle information, and the rapid renewal option will soon be ready for testing. Those with January registrations who want to try out on-line are encouraged to contact the town office (town@lamoine-me.gov) to test the service. Only electronic checks (no credit cards) will be allowed for renewal. Once the service is up and running properly, the link to re-register will appear on the town website (www.lamoine-me.gov).

Cable TV Channel Is On the Air

Volunteer Producers Needed

(Lamoine)—Voters in Lamoine pretty much mirrored the state results in dealing defeat to the proposed 1-percent property tax cap dubbed the “Palesky” question. The tax cap question was defeated with 689 votes no and 339 in favor. Turnout for the 2004 general election set a record in Lamoine with 1056 ballots cast. The official voting list had 1,394 names on it, but the list has not been purged in many years so the nearly 76% turnout was likely a much higher percentage. The potential tax cap, as written, could have devastated towns across Maine, including Lamoine, which would have seen about a \$400,000 revenue drop.

On other matters for the general election, the Presidential outcome was very close, with Democrat John Kerry garnering 6 more votes than President George W. Bush. The race for Congress saw incumbent Michael Michaud outpoll Republican challenger Brian Hamel 531 to 441. Incumbent Democrat Dennis Damon retained his State Senate seat and won in Lamoine 582 to 459 over challenger John Linnehan. Incumbent Representative Earl Bierman was re-elected as well and defeated Arthur Keenan 566 to 422. Bonnie Cousins, the new Register of Probate won in Lamoine 671 to 322. Republican County Commissioner candidate Bruce Carter outpolling Fay Lawson in Lamoine (545-450), but Lawson won the race with big support from MDI voters.

The only other matter on the ballot was the bear baiting referendum, which was defeated in Lamoine (576-458) as well as losing narrowly statewide.

Six ballot clerks counted the votes, and all the tallies were complete by about 1:30 AM on November 3rd. The election marked the last for Billie Lear who is moving to Hancock. State law requires that an equal number of Democrats and Republicans be named as ballot clerks. Kay Bragdon, Warren Craft and Billie Lear served for the Republican Party while Joan Broussard, Marion McDevitt and Donna Thorburn counted for the Democratic Party. Nearly 170 voters cast their ballots early through absentee balloting, also a new record in Lamoine.



First Vote for Quentin

Quentin Pileggi takes in the scene as Mom (Bronwyn) casts her ballot. Looking on are Ballot Clerk Kay Bragdon, and Voters Diane & Walter Covey



Checking the camera hookups are engineers Trent Robinson and Bob Wilbur of JMAC

(Lamoine) - The first telecast on Lamoine’s Cable TV Channel took place in November as the Budget Committee meeting aired live to Cable TV subscribers. Some audio troubles crept up, but reaction was generally favorable. Lamoine’s Cable TV Committee got training on how to run the fancy gear in Mid-December and volunteers will sit down at the controls periodically and broadcast meetings to the many homes that have Adelphia Channel 7.

The town purchased two cameras and the various controls from a company called JMAC in Bangor. Engineers installed the gear in November, and ran the training session. Nicholas Pappas, a freshman at MDI High School manned the controls for the first transmission. The Conservation Commission’s presentation on birds by Michael Good was the 2nd broadcast, and that was replayed several times over the channel. The Cable TV Channel Committee formulated a programming policy which the Board of Selectmen approved in December. Stay tuned for more events!

Gravel Pit Expands, Others Renewed

(Lamoine) - The Planning Board gave final approval to Harold MacQuinn, Inc. to expand a gravel extraction operation on Douglas Highway by several acres. Final Site Plan Review approval came in November.

The plan calls for expansion of the so called Kittridge Pit onto a 400-foot strip of land owned by Ralph and Mary Miro. The entrance onto Route 184 will remain the same, though the cut into the hillside will be larger.

The permitting process started in May 2004 under the gravel extraction ordinance. Because of the size of the expansion, the Site Plan Review Ordinance kicked into effect, and the filing requirements became quite a bit more complicated.

During the public hearing the Planning Board heard concerns about the potential impact of the gravel mining on groundwater sources, especially for the Cold Spring Water Company which owns land abutting the lot being mined. The Conservation Commission noted that a groundwater study is under way and more information about the potential impact on the groundwater supply might be available at a later date.

In its discussion the Planning Board felt that if at a later time there proves to be some impact on the public groundwater supply, it could be addressed through the

gravel extraction permitting renewal process. The Board voted 4-1 to grant the Site Plan Review permit which is good for the life of the pit, an estimated 25-years. Gravel extraction permits must be renewed every three years.

The Planning Board also gave renewal approval to a number of existing gravel pits during the fall, including a pit operated by RF Jordan on Lamoine Beach Road, five other pits operated and owned by Harold MacQuinn, Inc. and one of the two pits owned and operated by John W. Goodwin, Jr.

The board postponed action on another gravel pit owned and operated by Mr. Goodwin because it did not have enough information on which to act. It's expected that information will arrive in time for action at the January 4, 2005 meeting.

Another pit application before the board has been tabled, and the permit for the pit extended 60-days because the applicant is new to the permitting process. Michael Keene obtained a pit in the Marlboro area from the late J. Aubrey Davis. The Planning Board found Mr. Keene's submission to be lacking some information and asked him to gather that information and return to the board with it. The permit expires at the end of 2004, and with the temporary extension, Mr. Keene should be able to operate through February.

Indoor Riding Arena Proposed

(Lamoine) — A Lamoine family wants to construct an enclosed riding arena on the family farm they own on Mud Creek Road. Susan Arthur and Adam Fronczak presented a preliminary application to the Lamoine Planning Board in December outlining their plans for the riding arena. The Board made a site visit to the property in December and will look over the final application for completeness in January. If the application is found complete, the Board will set a public hearing date and take final action, perhaps at its February meeting.

The proposed arena is 11,520 square feet in size, and would be constructed of metal and wood. No new entrance is proposed off Mud Creek Road, and no plumbing facilities are proposed for the new building. Ms. Arthur operates Iron Slipper Farm on the property and is a horse enthusiast.

In looking over the pre-application, the Board asked Arthur and Fronczak to indicate where the parking area would be and show how many people would be on site at any given time. That information is expected in time for the January 2005 Planning Board meeting. Arthur and Fronczak said they hope to be able to get approval to complete construction during the winter months.

Once the Planning Board schedules a public hearing, abutting landowners will get notification of the hearing date via certified mail.

More Subdivisions Approved *Road Width Waiver sought on one*

(Lamoine) — Lamoine's Planning Board gave the go-ahead this fall to four subdivisions with a total of 35-house lots. Marketing has begun on at least one of the subdivisions while road construction has begun on two others.

Keven Ireland of Bangor won approval for an 11-lot subdivision bordering the town line with Ellsworth. The subdivision will be called Beal Estates, named after Mr. Ireland's grandparents Ralph & Golda Beal who lived on the property for many years. Though the property is divided by the Ellsworth/Lamoine line, the entire subdivision is located on the Lamoine side, and the City of Ellsworth Planning Board waived intervention rights in the approval process.

The Planning Board gave final approval in November to another 11-lot subdivision called Boulder Cove Estates being developed by Anthony and Elizabeth Belch. The subdivision is located off Shore Road and leads to the Jordan River. The Belches are familiar developers to the Planning Board, having constructed the Applewood Shores subdivision on Douglas Highway. Clearing

has begun for the subdivision road, and surveying the lots is under way. It's not clear when the lots will go on the market.

The third 11-lot subdivision was approved for another familiar developer—Steve Joy. His project called Marlboro Mist II will enter Partridge Cove Road (Route 204) and road construction is under way in earnest for that project. The Planning Board, though, has withheld final approval on the subdivision road design, preferring to come up with an understanding on the final road width requirement. The ordinance standard calling for a 34-foot road seems to apply only to paved roads, and the proposed subdivision will be served by a gravel road. The Planning Board should decide in January on the final design of the road.

The Board also approved a 2-lot subdivision by Gary Murphy of Partridge Cove Road. Mr. Murphy recently constructed a home on a 5-acre parcel and wished to divide that into a couple more lots. The Planning Board gave final approval to that plan in November.

Junkyards Renewed, Removed

(Lamoine) - With no testimony at a public hearing in December, the Selectmen renewed two automobile graveyard permits to Pro Auto Center. The yards are located behind Pro Auto on Douglas Highway and behind property owned by Eleanor Norris off Marlboro Beach Road and have been permitted for a number of years. Recent state law changes will move the permitting period to October.

Meanwhile, a junkyard licensed to Reginald McDevitt has been discontinued as Mr. McDevitt said he's disposed of the vehicles.

A violation notice by Code Enforcement Officer Dennis Ford to Wesley Bentivoglio of North Lamoine has resulted in the removal of several junk vehicles from his property. State law requires an automobile graveyard permit if more than two unregistered/un-inspected vehicles are stored.

Home Occupations Occupy Board

(Lamoine) — The Lamoine Building and Land Use Ordinance defines home occupation as: “*an occupation or profession which is customarily conducted on or in a residential structure or property and which 1) clearly incidental to and compatible with the residential use of the property and surrounding residential uses; and 2) which employs no more than two (2) persons other than family members residing in the home.*” The ordinance says the Planning Board is the issuing authority for home occupations, but it doesn't give any more guidance than that.

The Board dealt with two home occupation requests in December. John Karst of Walker Road will come back with a more complete application in January for his business which caters to sporting dogs. He's asking to post a sign, and for some retail business at his home.

The second application came from Donald Bamman, a house appraiser who just moved to Orchard Lane. The Planning Board felt the nature of Mr. Bamman's home based business did not require a full application review, thus giving his home occupation tacet approval.

The Board discussed more exploration in the area of home occupation as part of possible ordinance changes to be presented to town meeting. An application separate from the current construction application might be the result, as well as language to give guidance on how to proceed with such requests.

Long Range Planning Effort Trudges On

(Lamoine) — The folks interested in looking at the long range needs and desires of the town are still at it, but progress in coming up with a game plan is slower than expected. The committee had hoped to hand in a report to the Board of Selectmen in the fall, but final approval to a report has yet to materialize.

The discussion in the 23-person committee has taken some interesting turns, and focuses on a number of areas. Some committee members feel it would be a good idea to do a survey of the town to see what residents think are the areas that need focus in the future. Much of the discussion has revolved around code-enforcement needs and

desires of various town officials. At least one member has expressed a strong desire in establishing a memorial to all Lamoine Veterans.

The committee will resume its meetings starting on January 11, 2005 at the Lamoine School. That meeting will focus on a possible survey of townspeople and serve to re-charge the committee which suffered from low attendance at its last meeting in November, and failure to publicize a scheduled meeting in December. The long range planning committee's formation resulted from a town-wide planning conference held last May.

Ornithologist Educates Lamoine Residents

(Lamoine) — Lamoine's Comprehensive Plan has several pages devoted just to the different bird species present in town. Expert Michael Good of Bar Harbor emphasized that point in a talk to Lamoine's Conservation Commission in December at the Town Hall.

Good, who runs a nature tour business in Bar Harbor, said many of the birds that arrive in Lamoine in the summer season start out in the tropics. He showed dozens of slides of birds photographs he's taken near his home

and around the area.

Good has relatives that own seasonal property on the Seal Point Road. He warned of development and clear cuts taking habitat away, especially from tropical origin birds and said that's been a problem in all parts of Maine. He said planners ought to keep that in mind, especially with subdivisions. Good's talk was carried live on Lamoine's Cable TV Channel and replayed several times during the days after the talk.

Permit Issuance Slows for Year

(Lamoine) — After a record setting pace in 2003 and 2002, the number of building permits fell slightly for 2004. The Code Enforcement Office had issued 77 permits near the end of December, compared to over 80 permits each of the previous two years. Permits issued since the last edition of *The Lamoine Quarterly* are to:

#	Name	Project
61	D Ashmore/R Kaufman	Addition
62	Munsell, Mark	Addition
63	Madrell, Robert	Deck, Sunroom
64	Bragdon, Merle	Residence
65	Fennelly, Richard Jr.	Rep Mobile Home
66	Moala, James	Residence
67	Hodgdon, Wayne	Addition
68	Mingo, Derek/Michelle	Mobile Home
69	Grindle, Mima	Wood Shed
70	Cosulich, Jeff	Residence
71	Wright, Wayne	Residence
72	Miller, Ed/Lillian	Garage
73	Constantine/Woodard	Addition/Deck
74	Belden, Stephen/Candace	Residence
75	Belch, Elizabeth	Residence, Garage
76	Woodard, Michael	Garage
77	Ghander, Judith	Shed

Building permit issuance is also available on line at www.lamoine-me.gov. Click on the Code Enforcement box and it will take you to the permits issued page.

Town Meeting Planned for March 8th & 9th
Nomination Papers Available Now, Due Jan. 21st

(Lamoine) - Selectmen are planning for the regular town meeting and set the date for the annual event for March 8th and 9th. Voting for municipal officers will take place on the 8th (Tuesday) from 10AM to 8PM at the Town Hall. The annual open town meeting takes place the following night beginning at 6:00 PM at the Lamoine Consolidated School Gym.

While the dates are firm, the agenda for the town meeting (officially called the warrant) is far from set. The first order of business, though, is always the selection of a moderator, and that will take place about 5-minutes before the polls open on Tuesday the 8th. The next order of business will be to elect the municipal officers, and if there are any referenda to decide by secret ballot, to decide on those. It's expected the Planning Board might have a series of changes to propose to help clarify sections of the Building and Land Use Ordinance. Additionally, a Parks Ordinance is ready for a vote and an Appeals Board Ordinance is near completion to send to voters. Whether the ordinance votes will come via referendum or in open town meeting will be determined in the next few weeks.

The race for municipal officers did not bring a flood of candidates rushing for nomination papers. By year's end, only one person had taken out papers for the 1-year Selectmen's position, and no one obtained papers for the 2-year or 3-year position. Glenn Crawford is the lone incumbent who's term has expired on the Board. He is finishing his third 3-year term as Selectman.

The School Committee has just one seat that will open up, and by year's end no

one had taken out nomination papers to appear on the ballot for that position. The incumbent, Bonnie Marckoon, has served two full terms and one partial term.

There is one tax assessor's seat that will be elected in March as well, currently held by Terry Towne. Mr. Towne has obtained nomination papers to run for re-election to a 2nd term.

Should no candidates turn in the required 25-nominating signatures by January 21st for a particular opening, the ballot space would contain only an area for a write-in candidate, and the candidate with the most write-in votes would be elected to the office. Should the candidate refuse to accept the position, it could mean a special election at a later date.

The rest of the town meeting will be in the open format at the Lamoine School Gym starting at 6:00 PM sharp on Wednesday March 9th. A series of usual housekeeping items will start out the warrant, and then voters will decide the budget matters for the fiscal year that starts on July 1, 2005 and ends on June 30, 2006.

The Budget Committee has been hard at work looking at each budget item and will have its recommendations printed with the town meeting warrant in the annual report book. The final, bottom line for taxes, though, probably won't be known for several months as the Maine Legislature is wrestling with several tax reform measures. That directly affects the amount of state aid for school funding, which directly affects the amount of property tax the town will need to raise to operate.

Transfer Station Overflows to End Year

(Lamoine) — If one could judge by the amount of waste generated, it was a good Christmas in Lamoine. In just about 3-hours the Friday following Christmas, the 130-yards of dumpster space was filled to capacity, causing the transfer station to close early for the day on New Year's Eve. That left trash hauler Rusty Boynton with an unfinished route for the day, and arrangements were made for him to meet the trash truck first thing Saturday morning to off-load the trash he picked up on one leg of his route Friday. The facility was open on New Year's Day.

For the calendar year the town experienced a smaller increase in trash than expected, with about 23-tons more than 2003, or just over 3% more. The Selectmen will meet with Pine Tree Waste to ensure the accuracy of the amount of trash being hauled from the transfer station to the PERC plant in Orrington. By previous agreement Pine Tree had mixed Lamoine's and Eastbrook's trash in the same load to PERC and estimating the tonnage from each community. That ended several months ago, but Pine Tree officials said there had been some private contract pickups from Lamoine mixed in with the municipal trash which affected the tonnage.

The recycling rate for 2003 was 54%, but will drop significantly for 2004 as much of the recycling in 2003 was attributed to a wood cutting operation credited to the town's overall recycling that did not happen in 2004.

Parks Ordinance Proposed

(Lamoine) — Despite posted signs to the contrary, if someone decides they want to pitch a tent and spend the week at one of Lamoine's public parks, there is nothing on the books to legally stop them. That's the impetus behind a proposed ordinance to regulate parks in town that will be voted on at the March town meeting.

The proposed ordinance would establish a Parks Commission to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The commission would meet at least 4-times a year to discuss issues surrounding the parks (currently Lamoine Beach Park, Bloomfield Park and a small part of Marlboro Beach). The ordinance would also prohibit overnight camping, littering, damage to structures, and regulate where fires could be lit.

Cove Road resident Terry Towne asked the Selectmen to check on whether the proposed regulations would conflict with the covenants contained in the deeds of the property owners in the Bar Harbor Highlands Subdivision, as Lamoine Beach Park was originally part of that subdivision. A check with the Maine Department of Conservation which legally owns Lamoine Beach Park but has given the town operational rights found no conflict. A Maine Parks Commission official found the proposed ordinance to be compatible with the lease language given to the town. A copy of the proposed ordinance will be posted on the town's website with the town meeting information.

Appeals Board Turns Down Sign Request

(Lamoine) - A proposal by Lamoine artist Christine Schmidt to construct a 4-foot by 8-foot structure in order to show off her sketches got turned down by both the Lamoine Planning Board and the Board of Appeals. The proposed display case exceeds the 6-square foot maximum allowed by the commercial section of the Building and Land Use Ordinance. While members of both boards were sympathetic to the request, they pointed to the ordinance as being the controlling language regarding signs. Many on both boards agreed the maximum sign size seems rather small.

One question not resolved was whether the sign ordinance portion of the commercial section applies to home occupations, as the scope section specifically says the commercial section does not apply to home occupations. However, there are no other sections of the ordinance that deal with sign sizes, and Planning Board members present at the Appeals Board hearing felt the sign section did apply to the art gallery that Ms. Schmidt runs at her home. The gallery has not gone before the Planning Board as a permitted home occupation. Ms. Schmidt told Board of Appeals members that she had hoped to run the gallery in semi-retirement after closing a commercial gallery in Southwest Harbor.

The Planning Board is the permitting authority for all home occupations, and will explore the process for granting such permits in the coming year (see page 2).

Lobster Pound Appeal Nearing the End

(Lamoine) — Seen by some as the “appeal without end”, Lamoine's Board of Appeals may be able to wrap up deliberations on the case brought against the Planning Board's issuance of Shoreland and Site Plan Review permits to the Seal Point Lobster Pound for an expanded parking lot and truck turn-around area. The case, in one form or another, has been under way for nearly 2-years.

The case was brought by Robert Alvarez and several other neighbors of the lobster pound located at the end of Seal Point Road. In 2002 Mr. Alvarez had contacted the Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) at the time that lobster pound owners Anthony and Josette Pettegrow were allegedly in violation of the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance. The CEO issued the notice of violation and the Board of Selectmen entered a consent agreement that included a fine and a requirement that the Pettegrows obtain the proper Shoreland Zoning Permit for construction of the parking lot.

The Pettegrows applied for and obtained the permit for the parking area, and the granting of that permit was appealed by the neighbors on grounds that the Planning Board did not follow the proper procedures in granting the permit. The Board of Appeals agreed that the case should go back to the Planning Board, and in the late summer/early fall of 2003 the Planning Board issued the Site Plan Review and Shoreland Zoning permits. That brought another appeal by the neighbors and began the

There's A Cemetery There?

(Lamoine) — Most folks don't realize there are over a dozen cemetery sites in Lamoine, but Boy Scout Daniel Gommel knows. As part of his Eagle Scout project, Gommel has visited most of graves and plotted them on topographical maps using GPS technology.

The big cemeteries are quite obvious—East Lamoine (behind the Historical Society Meeting House), Forest Hills (beside the Lamoine Baptist Church) and Marlboro Cemetery (off Seal Point Road). There are many small burial sites—some with only a grave or two present, and located on private property.

Gommel said the oldest grave appears to be that of John Ford, a Revolutionary War Soldier buried on his property off Seal Point Road. Ford's ancestors still live on part of the property nearby, and each Memorial Day a flag is placed on his grave in remembrance that he was an American War Veteran.

The maps and notebook are available for viewing at the Lamoine Town Hall. Gommel will add a couple more sites to the project that came to light after his initial work. He credited the late Joe Lear with being a tremendous help in locating all the grave areas.



Mapping the Cemeteries

Eagle Scout candidate Daniel Gommel presents maps and a notebook to the Board of Selectmen showing where the burial sites of Lamoine are situated.

Mr. Lear passed away in 2004 and was Lamoine's resident cemetery expert and widely respected statewide for his knowledge on cemeteries.

Map Preservation

Assistant Town Clerk Kathy DeFusco has begun a project to better catalogue and store the dozens of maps in possession of the Lamoine Town Hall. The town has maps ranging from road layouts to geological features and many years of property tax maps that are now being stored in tubes and boxes. Many had laid loose in a map case or rolled up in the vault with no protection. It's hoped the project will better protect the many maps and make them easier to find. Money set aside for record preservation bought the storage tubes.

process in which the Board of Appeals is currently engaged.

After several delays by lawyers for both the neighbors and the Pettegrows, the case began on a Sunday afternoon in August. Six hours later the Appeals Board recessed, initially until a Sunday afternoon in September, and when a quorum failed to show, until late October. That evening hearing lasted another four hours, and found the application for the Site Plan Review to be complete. The neighbors said a public hearing on the matter had not been held. Chris Tadema-Wielandt, Chairman of the Board of Appeals, maintained that the public has had the opportunity for input at all times during the appeal process. Nevertheless, a subsequent meeting was advertised as a public hearing, and advertised in local newspapers as such.

More hearings were held in November and December, with the Pettegrows attorney presenting the Shoreland Zoning application in great detail, and the appellants challenging that the lobster pound has evolved into an industrial use that is not permitted in the Limited Commercial Zone.

Final arguments in the case are scheduled for January 11th beginning at 6:30 PM at the Town Hall, whereupon the public hearing portion of the proceedings will end. After the arguments are presented, the Appeals Board will decide whether the completed applications as presented by the Pettegrows meet the standards set in the Site Plan Review and the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance. If so, the Board can uphold the issuance of the permits granted by the Planning Board. If not, the permits could be revoked or the case referred back to the Planning Board for action.

Beaver Problem Abated (for now)

(Lamoine) — A beaver family paid the ultimate price after the town paid a few thousand dollars in road repairs on Needles Eye Road. The persistent creatures kept damming up water at a cross culvert just about as fast as contractor Richard King could clear out the debris. A screen designed to keep the water flowing worked briefly, but the animals kept plugging that up. The screen was easier to clean than the interior of the culvert.

The town contacted the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and a trapper was hired to remove the beavers, which was accomplished when trapping season opened in early December. No permanent damage to

the road base occurred, and the culvert has not flooded again since the beavers departure. Neighbors report that further upstream other beavers have created a huge pond and devastated the forest growth in the area between Needles Eye/Walker/Partridge Cove Road. It's not know if the beavers will be encouraged to vacate that area.

Road Block

A huge culvert waits for installation across Shore Road in November. The culvert replaces a 3-foot diameter metal culvert that had rotted out. Contractor Jay Fowler & crew performed the work.



Town Works on Shore, Mill & Seal Point Roads

(Lamoine) - Three roads received the bulk of the summer/fall work in 2004. On Seal Point Road, contractor Richard King patched in several potholes and replaced a culvert underneath the entrance to Sugarbush Drive. That culvert had heaved and frozen several times last winter, and proper placement and ditching should alleviate that problem.

On Shore Road, which the town plans to resurface in the summer of 2005, a huge culvert (shown above) was replaced and the shoulders widened out in the effort to eventually place guardrails in the area. The new culvert is made of thick plastic and should not experience the deterioration that damage metal culverts. Much of Shore Road was patched and graded in preparation for next summer's work. Jay Fowler did the work on Shore Road.

Mill Road, which was resurfaced on the western end this summer also got a sprucing up in order to preserve the paving job. Several drainage projects were improved or re-established along the road. A cross culvert that disappeared over the years due to winter sand buildup was found. JR Anderson Pressure Washing cleaned out that culvert which should greatly cut down on the water flow on the lower end of the road. Some shoulders were cut down while others were built up to match the grade of the road surface.



The Trouble With Beavers.....

Needles Eye Road flooded several times thanks to some busy beavers intent on making a pond at the culvert area.

Still Time To Register Dogs

(Lamoine) — State law requires that all dogs be registered with the Town Clerk. Dog registrations expire December 31st, but there is a month long grace period in January where no late fee is charged.

After January 31st a \$15.00/dog late fee is assessed. If a warrant for licensing is issued in April, an additional \$25.00/dog fee is charged.

Lamoine residents can utilize on-line dog registrations at www.doglicensing.com. A link to the site is on Lamoine's web-page (www.lamoine-me.gov). Proof of current rabies is required. The state has deemed that rabies shots are now good for 3-years from the date of vaccination instead of two years, unless the dog was less than 1-year old when vaccinated.

State Asks for Accessible Voting Place

(Lamoine) — Selectmen will inspect the entrance to the Town Hall to see what changes could be easily made to accommodate handicapped voters on Election Day. The Secretary of State's office issued reports to all towns on voting accessibility, asking for corrections to meet some strict standards set by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Lamoine was cited for not having a marked parking area for vehicles displaying disability plates, having a ramp that is slightly too steep, having a slight lip where the ramp meets the

Road Names Assigned

(Lamoine) — Three new roads have names, while a fourth waits for agreement between a subdivision developer and the Selectmen. The Board agreed to **Otter Lane** as the name for a road serving two cottages off Shore Road. The cottages are being constructed by Steve and Patricia Leonard-Johnson of Bar Harbor.

King's Lane is the name of a new road leading to subdivision lots being developed by Richard King. It's located near Mr. King's business and home on Douglas Highway.

Up Back Road leads to a pair of cottages under construction by Eric Hartman of Lamoine Beach Road, nearly across from Lamoine State Park. No sign was erected yet due to the winter weather—it will go in when the ground thaws.

The road serving the Marlboro Woods subdivision remains unnamed as Selectmen seek an alternate, historical name for the road.

pavement, and for the outside bulletin board that encroaches into the handicapped ramp. The ramp, partially made of cement and asphalt, does not have handrails on both sides for the entire length. There is no curb on the lower part of the ramp, which may be the biggest danger to all who use it.

The report came out the week before the November 4th elections, and did not allow enough time for major changes to be made. There has never been any complaint from voters about accessibility to the voting area.

Hazardous Waste Cleanup Succeeds

(Somesville) — Lamoine residents took advantage of free household hazardous waste cleanup permits at an area pickup in October. The MDI League of Towns sponsored the collection at the Somesville Fire Station. Lamoine had 9-permits assigned, and when those were exhausted, residents who had material were referred to neighbors who had a permit. By all accounts, the arrangement was successful. The League of Towns hopes to sponsor another cleanup next fall in a similar fashion. The cleanup cost the town just over \$500.

Salt/Sand Shed Update

(Lamoine) — After rejection of a land purchase, Selectmen may look at other options for locating a salt/sand shed in town. Currently the salt/sand pile is on private property on Needles Eye Road for use only by the plowing contractor. State law generally prevents location of a salt storage area over the aquifer, but there are means to request a variance provided the pile is covered and on an impervious base. Years ago it was envisioned the town would build such a shed in the lot adjacent to the Transfer Station, but the siting laws prohibiting location over the aquifer kicked in about that time.

The town has obtained the variance form, and has set money aside for many years to build such a facility. Having a shed could greatly reduce snow removal costs.

New Rescue Truck Arrives in February



Taking Shape

Lamoine's new fire truck, a rescue/pumper, is under construction at MetalFab in Centerville, NB. Funding for the new truck was approved twice by voters in 2004. Shown here in December, the truck features a 2005 Navistar chassis with a water tank and high powered pump and storage space for all the fire department's rescue gear. Delivery is expected in February 2005.

(Lamoine) — Construction is moving faster than expected on the town's newest piece of firefighting apparatus. The 2005 fire truck should arrive in early February once it passes all its pumping tests at the factory outside of Island Falls, Maine.

The new truck is a combination pumper and rescue truck and will replace a 1975 American LaFrance the town purchased as a used truck a few years ago. Fire department officials proposed the new truck to the town meeting as a way of helping to keep the ISO fire insurance rating low, thus keeping homeowner insurance rates lower. A petition asked for a referendum vote following the vote

in open town meeting last March that overwhelmingly approved purchase of the truck. The referendum vote also passed by a healthy margin.

Once the new truck is in service, rescue equipment scattered among several vehicles in the fire department fleet will be moved to the new truck, which will be a first response vehicle. Because it's also a pumper, the truck will prove valuable for fire protection as well as rescues.

The town will sell the 1975 truck, and chief Skip Smith plans to meet with Selectmen in early January to discuss the best way to dispose of the older truck.

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Water Initiative Continues

(Lamoine) - Volunteers have collected all the data from Lamoine, and some data from Hancock and Ellsworth as the study on fresh water supplies in the three communities continues. Carol Korty of Lamoine's Conservation Commission who's helping coordinate the study says they've had good cooperation in town, and have some high school students working with the data in Hancock. City Hall staff in Ellsworth will also assist.

The Mitchell Center at the University of Maine is compiling the data to show on a spreadsheet and map of the aquifer that serves as the drinking water supply for many homes in the three communities. Korty says they hope to wrap up the project by summer.

The project has apparently sparked interest from the Massachusetts based Island Foundation which may provide funding for similar studies in other communities.

By using studies conducted in Lamoine and Ellsworth several years ago, the latest round of water data will determine whether housing development and gravel mining have an impact on the quantity and quality of groundwater. The study is not intended to curb either activity, but could be used for ordinance policy decisions in the future that can preserve usable groundwater.

Fire Calls Down in '04

Emergency Management Grant Nets Gear

(Lamoine) — For the first time in a few years, the call volume dropped significantly for the Lamoine Volunteer Fire Department. A pair of calls on New Year's Eve brought the call total to 39 for the year, down from last year's volume of 48 calls.

Many of the recent calls involved downed trees on power lines. The fire department is routinely called for such cases in order to keep the motoring public away from the dangerous lines. Personnel block the scene until the power company can arrive and take care of the problem. Several wind storms in November and December brought down numerous trees.

The other calls in the fall involved accidents, and standing by while neighboring fire departments fought building fires.



A Rough Ride

Two Partridge Cove Road residents ended their ride upside down in mid-December at the intersection of Mud Creek Road and Pinkhams Flats. Neither was seriously injured.



Lifeflight Lands at Ballfield

A severe leg injury to a Mill Road resident brought the Life-Flight helicopter to the ballfield at the Lamoine School. Fire Department personnel set up the Landing Zone

Painting Waits

(Lamoine) — The project to paint the interior of the Lamoine Fire Station will wait for warmer weather. Part of the project involves painting the apparatus floor and will mean trucks would have to park outside for a week for the paint to dry. One bid has come in for the project, slightly above the money set aside a few years ago for the project.

Meanwhile, a new electronic security lock was installed on the department's access door. The high tech lock allows access through swipe cards and keypads instead of keys.

(Lamoine) — The Lamoine Fire Department has received about \$5,000 in rescue gear from Maine's Emergency Management Agency (MEMA). The gear includes new rescue swimming suits and related gear for the water rescue team, along with lights and navigation equipment for the rescue boat.

The Hancock County Emergency Agency coordinated the MEMA grant for Lamoine, thanks to residents Linda Feury and Ralph Pinkham who run the local EMA program. Rescue boat Lieutenant Brett Jones put together the list of rescue gear the boat crew could use to enhance any rescue efforts. The money is part of MEMA's allocation for homeland security measures. If an incident were to happen in Hancock County, it's likely

Lamoine's rescue boat unit would be a key player in water rescue needs.

LVFD Supper a Success

(Lamoine) — The annual clam chowder supper for the fire department netted the department about \$1,400 and served a record number of diners. Chef Albert Herrick cooked up another yummy batch of chowder, and when the nearly 350 in attendance had eaten their fill, the chowder pot was nearly empty.

The LVFD holds the dinner annually in October at the school as one of the major fund raisers of the year. The money will help replenish funds used to purchase the new rescue truck (see above article).

PATRONS Seeks Help With Playground Project

By Laura Parlee

(Lamoine)—PATRONS is the name of the parent-teacher organization at Lamoine Consolidated School. We are a volunteer group which fundraises throughout the year to help meet school needs. Over the past few years, we have been able to add more computers and software to the classrooms, support the DARE program, purchase a new podium, fund art and science programs, sponsor dances and school parties, help host the “Meet the Candidates Night, and the yearly town meeting, as well as award the teachers funds during teacher appreciation week to purchase classroom supplies. We have also offered a small annual scholarship to a Lamoine high school senior. In addition, last year, PATRONS formed a sub-committee for playground improvements, in an effort to address safety concerns on the school’s play areas.

Last spring the school board approved plans to fill, grade and resurface the practice soccer field, resurface the kickball area, and most important, relocate the playground. During the summer vacation, Richard King generously donated his time to complete work on the practice soccer field and, working with Harald Huebner, cleared a new playground site, in a safer area behind the school. We are waiting until spring to landscape, build a sand area, and to move most of the existing playground equipment (some of it is old, and safety is an issue), and add some new pieces.

During the past few years, PATRONS has been able to branch out into new forms of

creative fundraising, with programs such as BOX TOPS 4 EDUCATION, SCHOOLPOP, and FUNDING FACTORY. This has been a huge benefit which has allowed us to continue to support our students, while saving over \$9,000 to relocate the playground. We have already purchased two new pieces of playground equipment. Through FUNDING FACTORY, where we receive credit for recycling ink and laser cartridges, as well as old cellular phones, we have earned enough points to purchase a sand-digger and hope to purchase a second this spring. We are working hard to make a little go a long way, and could use your help. Please donate your used cell phones and printer cartridges (we cannot recycle any that are already “refurbished”). If you work with a business that uses the large cartridges ask if you can donate them after they have been used. We have a drop box in the front hallway of the school. [Recycling cartridges alone has made over \$2,300 for the school!] We also collect Boxtops coupons and Campbell soup labels, which can also be dropped off or mailed to the school. If you shop on-line, check out the participating merchants at the Schoolpop.com and Boxtops4education.com websites and register under Lamoine Consolidated School.

Donations to the school are tax deductible and there’s still time to make your 2004 contributions. You may write a check to LAMOINE PLAYGROUND or to LAMOINE PATRONS and send it to the Lamoine Consolidated School, 53 Lamoine Beach Road Lamoine, ME 04605.

Vital Statistics

Marckoon Heads Treasurers

(Lamoine) - Town Treasurer Stu Marckoon is the new president of the Maine Municipal Tax Collectors and Treasurer's Association. He takes the reins following the retirement of the association's president. The group provides training and development for municipal tax collectors & treasurers statewide.

Mock Election Results Differ from Parents



Getting Ready
Students Nick Bubel, Bill Dickey and Ryan McGreevey set up for the Mock Vote

(Lamoine) — Student voters tended more conservative than their parents in the mock election held in October at the Lamoine School. The students heavily favored re-election of President Bush and leaned strongly in favor of the Republican State Senate candidate John Linnehan. Neither carried Lamoine in the big election. Both the students and parents, though, soundly rejected the proposed property tax cap.

Lamoine Is Charter Town in Red Sox Nation

(Lamoine, Boston & St. Louis) - Only a handful of residents were alive the last time the Boston Red Sox won a World Series. (According to the voting list, less than 25!) - until now. For 176 games the die hard fans tuned in NESN or attempted to pick up the games on the radio as the Sox finally were crowned the champions of major league baseball. Though the sweep of the St. Louis Cardinals in 4-games was described as anticlimatic, the 7-game come from behind victory over the despised New York Yankees to reach the Series was sweet revenge for last season's game 7 loss. Many residents were quite bleary-eyed during the Yankees series with games often running until the wee hours of the morning.

Lots of folks have their own Sox stories. Maurice Googins, a former Selectman, is rarely seen in the summer time without his Red Sox jacket and hat. He said he quite clearly remembers the Red Sox/Cardinals series in 1946 when shortstop Enos Slaughter scored the winning run against Boston, ending hopes of the world championship.

Shore Road resident Arnette Meyer stopped by the Town Office prior to game 3 of the World Series and asked if anyone wanted souvenirs from St. Louis. She had several takers and was on the stadium

as the Sox clinched in the 4th game. Her license plate says it all: SOXCESS!

Another former Selectman, Tom Spruce has strong Red Sox ties thanks to his brother-in-law, author Stephen King who often shares season tickets with his brother-in-law and nephews. Tom was all smiles following the winning series and is already looking forward to next season with some new faces in the lineup. King is one of many authors who've written a book on the agony and ecstasy of the championship season.

Lamoine native Debbie Ashmore took her children to the championship parade in Boston. A few Lamoiners ventured to Bangor in December to see the World Series Trophy.



Got Their Sox On
Brothers Ben & Josh Morren of Lamoine pose with Governor John Baldacci as they view the Red Sox World Series trophy in Bangor

January 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1-Office Closed, Holiday
2	3-School Committee 7PM	4-Planning Board 7PM	5-Assessors 7PM Cable TV 7PM (School)	6-Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept 7PM	7	8
9	10-Budget Committee 7PM (School)	11-Appeals Board 6:30 PM Long Range Committee 7PM (School)	12-Conservation Commission 7PM	13-Fire Dept 7PM	14	15
16	17-Office closed (Holiday)	18	19	20-Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept 7PM	21-Nomination Papers Due	22
23	24-Budget Committee 7PM	25	26	27-Fire Dept 7PM	28	29
30	31					

February 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2-Assessors 7PM	3-Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept. 7PM	4	5
6	7	8-Planning Board 7PM	9-Conservation Commission 7PM	10-Fire Dept. 7PM	11	12
13	14-Office Closed (Holiday)	15	16	17-Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept 7PM	18	19
20	21	22	23	24-Fire Dept. 7PM	25	26
27	28					

March 2005

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1-Planning Board 7PM	2-Assessors 7PM	3-Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept 7PM	4	5
6	7- School Committee 7PM	8-Town Meeting Voting 10AM-8PM	9-Open Town Meeting 6PM at School	10-Fire Dept 7PM	11	12
13	14	15	16-Conservation Commission 7PM	17-Selectmen 7PM Fire Dept 7PM	18	19
20	21	22	23	24-Fire Dept 7PM	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

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